



**National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior**

**George Washington  
Birthplace National  
Monument**

1732 Popes Creek Rd.  
Colonial Beach, VA 22443

**Superintendent's Compendium**  
Of Designations, Closures, Permit  
Requirements and Other Restrictions  
Imposed Under Discretionary Authority.

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Approved:

/Lucy Lawliss/ Date: 6/30/11  
Lucy Lawliss, Superintendent

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In accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations ("36 CFR"), Chapter 1, Parts 1-7, authorized by Title 16 United States Code, Section 3, the following provisions apply to all lands and waters administered by the National Park Service, within the boundaries of George Washington Birthplace National Monument. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7.

Written determinations, which explain the reasoning behind the Superintendent's use of discretionary authority, as required by Section 1.5(c), appear in this document identified by italicized print.

**I. 36 CFR §1.5 – VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES, AND AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USE OR ACTIVITIES**

**(a)(1) The following visiting hours and public use limits are established for all or for the listed portions of the park, and the following closures are established for all or a portion of the park to all public use or to a certain use or activity:**

Visiting Hours:

- The Historic Area, Visitor Center, Book Store, and Visitor Center parking lot are open to the public between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. unless otherwise posted.
- The park picnic area, and Potomac River Beach/Burial Ground area are closed to the public at 5:00 p.m. November 1<sup>st</sup> through February 28th, unless other wise posted
- The park picnic area, and Potomac River Beach/Burial Ground area are closed to the public at sunset March 1<sup>st</sup> through October 31st, unless other wise posted.
- Gates to the picnic area, and Potomac River Beach/Burial Ground will be open to the public at 7:00 a.m. Monday-Friday (except Federal holidays) and 9:00 a.m. Saturday-Sunday and Federal holidays unless otherwise posted.
- All park areas are closed to the public on the following holidays: Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Years Day.

Closures:

- The park shorelines along Pope's Creek and ponds are closed to the landing and launching of boats/watercraft and all public entry by water year round.

*It has been determined that the launching/landing of boats and watercraft along Popes Creek and ponds could pose a threat to the landscape's integrity through soil and slop erosion, damage to and loss of important vegetation and physical damage to features (See Cultural Landscape Report).*

- The park shoreline along the Potomac River beach is closed to the landing and launching of motorized boats/watercraft. The launching and landing of non-motorized boats/watercraft such as canoes and kayaks is permitted along the Potomac River beach.

*Launching of motorized vessels requires designated launch sites and direct road access. George Washington Birthplace does not have designated launch sites available (See 36 CFR 3.6).*

- The park shorelines and ponds are closed to fishing with the exception of the Potomac River Beach and Pope's Creek designated fishing area adjacent to the picnic area.

*It has been determined that fishing in undesignated areas along Pope's Creek or other areas of the park could pose a threat to the landscape's integrity through soil and slope erosion, damage to and loss of important vegetation and physical damage to features. (See Cultural Landscape Report).*

**(a)(2) The following areas have been designated for a specific use or activity, under the conditions and/or restrictions as noted:**

Fishing:

Pope's Creek designated fishing area adjacent to the picnic area (Virginia saltwater or freshwater sport fishing license required).

**The following restrictions and/or conditions are in effect for the specific uses or activities noted:**

In adherence to *Virginia Statutory Authority §§ 10.1-1307 and 10.1-1308* the following restrictions apply:

Passenger Carrying Busses:

- Tour buses may idle for up to 10 minutes during hot weather in order to maintain power to the air conditioning system; and
- Diesel powered vehicles may idle for up to 10 minutes to minimize restart problems.

*The idling of bus engines adds unnecessary exhaust fumes to the air and diminishes the enjoyment by visitors of the peace and tranquility of the park.*

## **II. 36 CFR §1.6 – PERMITS**

**Meetings and other special events are permitted only in certain areas and are governed by special conditions as outlined in the Policy for Non-Traditional Uses attached as Appendix A.**

**A Special Use Permit is required for organized group use of the Log House.**

**As required by section f, the following is a compilation of those activities and/or public uses for which a permit from the superintendent is required:**

- §2.5(a) Scientific specimen collection (Taking of plants, fish, wildlife, rocks or minerals)
- §2.10(a) The following camping activities:
  - Camping is prohibited in the park year round except to service organizations as provided by a permit.
- §2.12 Audio Disturbances:
  - (a)(4) Operation of a public address system in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to §2.50 or §2.51
- §2.37 Soliciting or demanding gifts, money goods or services (Pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit issued under §2.50, §2.51 or §2.52)
- §2.50(a) Conduct a sports event, pageant, regatta, public spectator attraction, entertainment, ceremony, and similar events
- §2.51(a) Public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions of views (see map)
- §2.52(c) Sale or distribution of printer matter that is not solely commercial advertising
- §2.62 Memorialization:
  - (a) Erection of monuments (Requires approval from Regional Director)
  - (b) Scattering ashes from human cremation
- §5.1 Advertisements - (Display, posting or distribution.)
- §5.3 Engaging in or soliciting any business (Requires a permit, contract or other written agreement with the United States, or must be pursuant to special regulations).
- §5.5 Commercial Photography/Filming:
  - (a) Commercial filming of motion pictures or television involving the use of professional casts, settings or crews, other than bona fide newsreel or news television
  - (b) Still photography of vehicles, or other articles of commerce or models for the purpose of commercial advertising.

### **III. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

#### **36 CFR §2.1 – PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

- Possessing, destroying, injuring, defacing, removing, digging, or disturbing of natural, cultural or archeological resources is prohibited.
- Unoccupied seashells may be collected by hand on the Potomac River beach for personal use.
- Possessing or using a metal detector is prohibited.

#### **36 CFR §2.2 - WILDLIFE PROTECTION**

- Viewing of wildlife by means of an artificial light is prohibited.

#### **36 CFR §2.3 – FISHING**

**(a) The following State fishing laws and/or regulations, as noted, apply in the listed areas:**

- Potomac River Beach (Saltwater fishing license required). Must comply with State size limits, catch limits, and other restrictions.
- Pope's Creek designated fishing area adjacent to the picnic grounds (Virginia saltwater or freshwater sport fishing license required). Must comply with State size limits, catch limits, and other restrictions.

#### **36 CFR §2.10 – CAMPING and FOOD STORAGE**

- Camping is prohibited in the park year round except to service organizations as provided by a permit.

#### **36 CFR §2.11 – PICNICKING**

- Picnicking is prohibited in all areas that impede vehicular or pedestrian traffic
- Picnic tables and the pavilion are available on a first come/first served basis.

**See Appendix A for other conditions related to picnicking.**

#### **36 CFR 2.13 – FIRES**

**(a)(1) The lighting or maintaining of fires is generally prohibited, except as provided for in the following designated areas and/or receptacles, and under the conditions noted:**

Designated Areas:

- Popes Creek picnic area.

Receptacles Allowed:

- Park supplied grills.
- Personal grills brought in by visitors.

Established Conditions for Fires:

- Must be monitored at all times.
- During periods of high fire danger the Superintendent may close the park to the lighting and maintaining of fires.

**(a)(2) The following restrictions are in effect for the use of stoves or lanterns:**

- Stoves and lanterns are only permitted to be used at the Popes Creek picnic grounds.
- Lanterns may not be attached to trees, vegetation, or park structures.

**(b) Fires must be extinguished according to the following conditions:**

- Fires must be extinguished with water and ashes left in place.
- Do not dump ashes in trash receptacles or on the ground.

**36 CFR §2.15 – PETS**

(a)(1) The following structures and/or areas are closed to the possession of pets, except for guide dogs that are accompanying an impaired person:

- All park buildings.
- Historic Area.
- Burial Ground.

In other areas of the park, the pet must be restrained in a crate, cage, or on a leash.

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**36 CFR §2.16 – HORSES and PACK ANIMALS**

(b) The use of horses or pack animals is allowed on the following trails, routes or areas:

- Within five feet of a roadway (see map).

(g) Other conditions concerning the use of horses or pack animals:

- Horses and pack animals are prohibited on the Potomac River beach, the Historic Area, Burial Ground, and nature trail.
- Stock trailers will be parked at the Log House parking area unless otherwise directed by a park employee.

**36 CFR §2.20 – SKATING, SKATEBOARDS and SIMILAR DEVICES**

- The use of skates, rollerblades, skateboards, and similar devices is prohibited.

**36 CFR §2.21 – SMOKING**

- Smoking is prohibited in all buildings.

**36 CFR §2.22 – PROPERTY**

- Property may not be left unattended longer than 24 hours unless specific permission is given by the Superintendent.

**36 CFR §2.23 – RECREATION FEES**

**(b) Recreation fees, and/or a permit, in accordance with 36 CFR part 71, are established for the following entrance fee areas, and/or for the use of the following specialized sites, facilities, equipment or services, or for participation in the following group activity, recreation events or specialized recreation uses:**

#### Entrance Fee Areas:

- An entrance fee or pass is required to enter the Historic Area for visitors 16 years or older.

#### Daily Site Use Fee Areas:

- The daily fee to utilize the Log House is \$75.00

### **36 CFR §2.35 –ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES and CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

**(a)(3)(i) The following public use areas, portions of public use areas, and/or public facilities within the park are closed to consumption of alcoholic beverages, and/or to the possession of a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or has been opened, or whose seal has been broken or the contents of which have been partially removed:**

- The consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in the park in adherence to the Code of Virginia, Title 4, Chapter I, Section 308, except by issuance of a special use permit.

### **36 CFR §2.38 (b) – EXPLOSIVES**

- Using or possessing fireworks or firecrackers is prohibited.

### **36 CFR §2.62 – MEMORIALIZATION**

**(a) The installation of a monument, memorial, tablet, structure, or other commemorative installation in the park without the authorization of the director is prohibited.**

**(b) A permit is required for the scattering of ashes from cremated human remains.**

### **36 CFR §3.21 – SWIMMING AND BATHING**

**(a)(1) The following areas are closed to swimming and bathing:**

- Potomac River Beach
- Popes Creek
- Ponds and streams

*These areas are closed to swimming out of concern for public safety and health as there are no lifeguards present, underwater hazards may exist, strong currents are sometimes present in the Potomac River, and water quality fluctuates in these bodies of water*

### **36 CFR §4.21 – SPEED LIMITS**

**(b) The following speed limits are established for the routes/roads indicated:**

- The speed limit is set at 25 miles per hour on Bridges Creek Rd. and the picnic area road.

### **36 CFR §4.30 – BICYCLES**

- Bicycles must stay on established public roads and parking areas.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **GEORGE WASHINGTON BIRTHPLACE NATIONAL MONUMENT**

#### **POLICY FOR NON-TRADITIONAL USES**

##### **INTRODUCTION**

Request for use of George Washington Birthplace National Monument grounds or facilities for events or activities that are not related to the purpose of the park will be reviewed and approved or disapproved based upon the following policy.

##### **POLICY**

The Service encourages park uses that draw meaning from their association with and direct relationship to park resources. Conversely, the Service discourages those uses not consistent with the preservation and /or protection of park resources, visitors, and/or values. Request for uses considered "non-traditional" may be provided for in certain areas of the park under careful regulation and control as outlined below.

Certain outdoor recreational activities not necessarily dependent upon park resources for their realization, and/or not constituting traditional or customary park uses, may be permitted when they do not:

- interfere with normal park usage;
- constitute a consumptive form of use;
- compromise the historic or natural scene; or
- present a danger to public welfare and safety, including safety of the participants.
- oppose the purposes for which the park was established

The time and place for such activities shall be controlled by permit to avoid:

- infringement upon the enjoyment and rights of other park visitors;
- traffic congestion;
- injury to non-participants and damage to property;
- unwarranted risk to participants due to inadequate equipment, lack of qualifications, weather, or other factors.

The use of park lands or facilities for organized athletic events or competitive recreational events characterized as public spectator attractions is not permitted. Pageants, anniversaries, and other observances are permitted when the observance contributes to visitor understanding of the significance of the park; and when the event can be staged without undue impact on the park's resources. Ample opportunities for hiking, jogging, bicycling, bird watching, etc., are provided and encouraged.

The primary purpose of the park, as articulated by Congress in 1930 when the park was established, is for the preservation of the historical associations of the premises and structures (associated with the birthplace of George Washington). By way of that legislative mandate, all special events will be allowed only in those areas designated by the Superintendent or his/her representative.

The following guidelines are provided to facilitate smooth operation of the park and allow permitted events to be held. Please read the guidelines carefully in order to fully understand the park's policy and to avoid any misunderstanding which may delay or interfere with your proposed event. Please remember that additional conditions may be added to individual request when received and considered.

All applications for special uses of park property, facilities, etc., must be received at least 30 days prior to the event to allow time for administrative review, permit preparation, and scheduling. Failure to provide necessary review time will be considered grounds for disallowing a requested activity.



SPECIAL EVENTS  
GENERAL CONDITIONS

For the purpose of holding a special event, permission to use the park area outlined in red on the enclosed map is subject to the following conditions and in accordance with park regulations (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36 § 2.50)

1. This agreement is made upon the express condition that the United States, its agents, and employees shall be free from all liabilities and claims for damages and/or suits for or by reason of any injury, injuries, or death to any person or property of the Permittee, its agents or employees, or third parties, from any cause or causes whatsoever while in or upon said premises or any part thereof during the term of this agreement or occasioned by any occupancy or use of said premises or any activity carried on by the Permittee in connection herewith, and the Permittee hereby covenants and agrees to indemnify, save, and hold harmless the United States, its agents, and employees from all liabilities, charges, expenses, and cost on account of or by reason of any such injuries, deaths, liabilities, claims, suits, or losses however occurring or damages growing out of same.
2. No personal monetary gain shall be derived from the use of this permit, and the setting up of concession stands for the selling of food, souvenirs, etc., is prohibited.
3. Good order and proper decorum shall be maintained by those conducting and/or participating in the event and public safety and general welfare will not be endangered.
4. Special care shall be taken not to damage any historic, interpretive, or natural object, feature, structure, etc. whatsoever.
5. This permit is issued only for the use of the area designated on the enclosed map and must take place during the parks established operating hours unless otherwise agreed upon in writing by the Superintendent.
6. The area shall be left in the same condition as prior to the event, and all litter, trash, and equipment will be removed from the park property by the Permittee on the day of the event.
7. Any loudspeaker or other sound enhancing devices being used shall be so adjusted as to accommodate only those people in the immediate area of the event.
8. At no time shall this event interfere with a visitor's enjoyment of the park.
9. The group shall comply with any instructions from an official representative of the park.
10. No alcoholic beverages are permitted in the park, unless specified in the permit, and all participants will be so notified prior to the event by the Permittee.
11. The number of participants in any event will be limited to the pre-agreed upon number set by the representative of the National Park Service and the permittee.
12. All news releases must be submitted to the Park Superintendent for review prior to release.
13. There will be no commercialization of the event by the permittee and the event shall not be primarily for the benefit of spectators.
14. Events permitted will be open to all people and no discrimination against any entrant because of race, color, religion, sex, age, or national origin shall be permitted.

15. All traffic direction and other functions of this nature are solely the responsibility of the National Park Service. Reimbursement of any expenses incurred by the National Park Service in relation to this event may be required if so determined by the Superintendent.
16. All emergency vehicles and operations will be under the direction of the National Park Service. Any vehicles violating the motor vehicle laws will be subject to enforcement action by the National Park Service.
17. Parking within the park is restricted to the designated parking areas that will be established by the National Park Service before the event.
18. The Permittee shall designate one person to coordinate all activities with the park's representative, and they shall meet before the event to go over all pertinent matter.
19. A performance bond and/or and insurance policy naming the U. S. Government as co-insured may be required. A determination will be made on a case-by-case basis depending on the nature of the event, size, resources used, etc.
20. A bond (cash, cashier's check, money order) in an amount determined necessary to cover cleanup, property damage, and other cost that may be incurred by the National Park Service may be required to be posted seven (7) calendar days before the proposed date of the event.
21. All participants will be notified in advance of these conditions.
22. The National Park Service reserves the right to immediately rescind this permit at any time should any of the above conditions be violated or in the event it conflicts with any park sponsored program.

#### WALK-A-THONS/BIKE-A-THONS, ETC.

Fund raising activities of a non-commercial nature will be permitted at certain times and will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Conditions for holding an event of this type will be enumerated under the General Conditions section of this policy along with any other special conditions that may be determined necessary by the nature of the event.

#### ORGANIZED SPORTING EVENTS, ETC.

The National Park Service does not allow the use of park facilities for organized athletic activities that are primarily designed as spectator attractions.

#### PICNICKING

Picnicking is an approved use of the park and it is encouraged as a way for visitors touring the park to stop and enjoy a picnic lunch. This park is not designed for organized group activities, and group use is therefore discouraged.

The following guidelines apply to use of the park picnic area:

- Picnicking is on a first-come, first-served basis only.
- Activities that disturb the ground, such as horseshoe pitching, etc. are not permitted.
- Loudspeakers, or any sound amplification devices are not permitted, unless approved by a special use permit.
- Car washing or waxing are not permitted in the park.
- Informal games or recreational activities are permitted in the picnic area.

## PUBLIC ASSEMBLY

In accordance with 36 CFR 2.51, public assemblies, meetings, demonstrations, parades, and other public expressions of views are allowed within the park provided a permit has been issued by the Superintendent.

The following areas have been designated by the Superintendent for this activity;

### George Washington Birthplace National Monument

Visitor Center - The grassy area adjacent to the flag pole (see map).

All other areas of the park are closed to this function as they may unreasonably impair the atmosphere of peace and tranquility maintained in the historic zone, and/or unreasonably interfere with interpretive, visitor service, or other program activities, or with administrative activities of the National Park Service.

The General Conditions will serve as the basic conditions of the permit, but may not be all inclusive.

## SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED MATTER

According to 36 CFR 2.52, and the established park policy on same, the sale or distribution of printed matter is allowed within the park. Subject park policy will govern the issuance of a permit. The designated areas for sale/distribution of printed matter are the same as for public assembly.

## PHOTOGRAPHY/FILMING

### Non-commercial

Notification of the park is required, upon which a determination will be made as to if a permit is required.

Permits are generally not required when:

- The photographer only goes where members of the public are generally allowed to go without a permit.
- The photographer is only doing what members of the public are generally allowed to do without a permit.
- The activity is bona fide news gathering event and the two conditions above are met.

Permits are required when:

- The activity involves the use of models, sets, actors, etc.
- The activity would result in damage to park resources or significant disruption of normal visitor use.
- Access is needed to areas otherwise closed or restricted to the visiting public.

If a permit is deemed necessary, it shall be in accordance with the established General Conditions, modified as necessary.

Fees shall only be charged in instances that require the park to expend unbudgeted funds.

#### Commercial

Commercial Filming permits are handled in the same manner as other Special Use Events.

An applicant will be required to fill out form 10-753, "Application for Permission to Film for Commercial Purposes" and make application to the park for a Special Use Permit. The standard permit will be issued if approved.

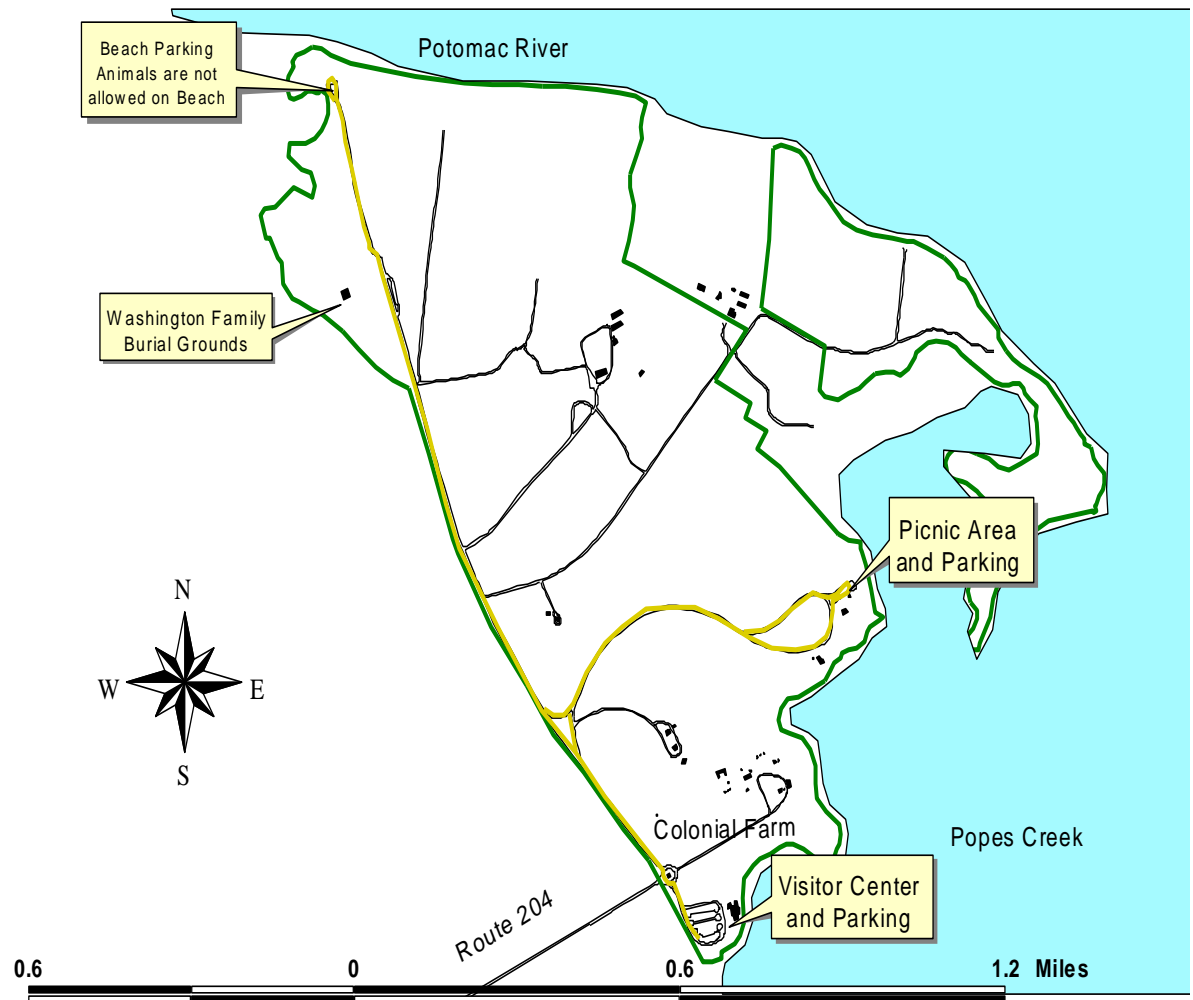
The General Conditions for special Events shall be placed on the filming, modified as determined necessary by the superintendent to protect park resources and mission.

A \$25.00 non-refundable fee will be charged to process/prepare the permit. Any unbudgeted cost incurred by the park for overtime, maintenance, monitoring of the event, etc. will be billed to the permittee and paid at the conclusion of the event.

Reimbursement to the park for the Fair Market Value Use and occupancy of National Park Service lands or resources will be determined by the scope/size of the event.

# George Washington Birthplace National Monument

## 2.16(b) Horses and Pack Animals





# George Washington Birthplace National Monument Public Assembly Area

